



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Mass Layoff Statistics 2005

In 2005, there were 102 mass layoff actions* taken by Rhode Island employers as measured by new filings for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. The events involved a total of 13,660 persons who filed initial claims for UI benefits. Twenty of the 102 layoff actions that occurred during the year were classified as long-term layoffs, that is, layoffs expected to last for more than 30 days.

Nearly 30 percent of the mass layoff events and 20 percent of the initial claims filed were associated with employers classified in the Manufacturing sector. In 2005, there were 30 mass layoff actions taken by 20 of the state's manufactures involving 2,616 workers. Five of these events were classified as long-term layoffs affecting 540 workers.

The second largest number of events involving the most workers occurred in the Transportation & Warehousing sector. There were 18 events reported in this sector in 2005, resulting in the filing of 3,848 initial claims. Less than 2 percent of these claims were associated with a long-term mass layoff.

There were 14 mass layoff events associated with employers classified in the Administrative & Waste Services sector involving 1,222 Rhode Island workers. The majority of these layoffs were short-term with less than 10 percent related to events lasting more than 30 days.

The Accommodation & Food Services sector had 13 mass layoff events resulting in the filing of 3,537 initial claims. Although this sector reported the second highest number of mass layoff claims, less than 3 percent of workers in this industry sector experienced long-term layoffs.

The Construction sector accounted for eight events resulting in 640 initial claims. Over 90 percent of these claimants were part of long-term layoffs. The Finance & Insurance sector had five events involving 404 initial claims and there were four events from the Management of Companies sector involving 487 workers.

Layoff Events By Major Industry

Industry Sector	Events	Initial Claims
Total	102	13,660
Accommodation & Food Services	13	3,537
Administrative & Waste Services	14	1,222
Construction	8	640
Finance & Insurance	5	404
Management of Companies	4	487
Manufacturing	30	2,616
Transportation & Warehousing	18	3,848
Other Industry Sectors	6	1,468

Layoff Events By Reason

There were 20 long-term layoffs (lasting 30 days or longer) attributed to 15 Rhode Island companies in 2005 affecting 1,405 workers. More than half (11) of all the long-term layoffs were classified as seasonal layoffs resulting from regularly recurring events such as holidays or changes in the weather. A total of 811 workers were part of a long-term seasonal mass layoff. Ten of the firms planned a total recall of all laid

off workers. Five employers anticipated having all workers re-employed in less than 90 days. The other five employers expected to recall all workers within a 90-180 day period.

There were three long-term layoffs classified as vacation period layoffs involving school support services that were discontinued during the summer months. Employers reported that all laid-off workers could expect a recalled in less than 90 days.

Four of the long-term layoffs resulted from Company Reorganization / Ownership Change with no recall expected for the 299 employees linked to these establishments.

* A mass layoff occurs whenever 35 or more initial claims are filed against a single company during a 5-week period.

Long-term Mass Layoffs By Reason

	Layoff Events	Initial Claims
Total	20	1,405
Seasonal	11	811
Company Reorganization/ Ownership Change	4	299
Vacation Period	3	143
Other Reason	2	152

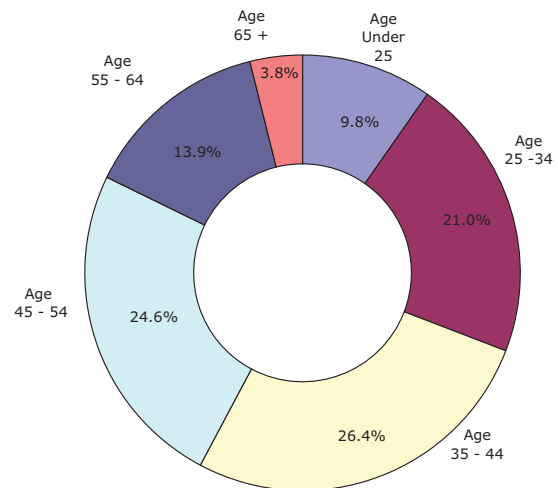
Characteristics of Initial Claimants in 2005

	Initial Claims	Percent
Total	77,799	100.0%
Male	40,774	52.4%
Female	37,025	47.6%
Industry	77,799	100.0%
Agriculture/Forestry	331	0.4%
Mining	139	0.2%
Utilities	37	0.0%
Construction	9,505	12.2%
Manufacturing	10,978	14.1%
Wholesale Trade	1,905	2.4%
Retail Trade	4,591	5.9%
Transportation & Warehousing	5,353	6.9%
Information	610	0.8%
Finance & Insurance	2,058	2.6%
Real Estate	895	1.2%
Professional & Tech. Services	1,849	2.4%
Management of Companies	663	0.9%
Administrative & Waste Services	6,143	7.9%
Educational Services	1,168	1.5%
Health Care & Social Assistance	4,798	6.2%
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	1,349	1.7%
Accommodation & Food Services	7,375	9.5%
Other Services	1,783	2.3%
Public Administration	1,058	1.4%
Information Not Available	15,213	19.6%
Occupation	77,799	100.0%
Management	5,183	6.7%
Business & Financial Operations	1,489	1.9%
Computer & Mathematical	546	0.7%
Architecture & Engineering	752	1.0%
Life, Physical & Social Science	240	0.3%
Community & Social Services	530	0.7%
Legal	191	0.2%
Education, Training & Library	2,137	2.7%
Arts, Design, Ent., Sports & Media	1,025	1.3%
Healthcare Practitioner & Technical	1,191	1.5%
Healthcare Support	1,432	1.8%
Protective Service	1,509	1.9%
Food Preparation & Serving Related	6,571	8.4%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maint.	2,712	3.5%
Personal Care & Service	845	1.1%
Sales & Related	3,866	5.0%
Office & Administrative Support	8,509	10.9%
Farming, Fishing & Forestry	349	0.4%
Construction & Extraction	6,593	8.5%
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	2,198	2.8%
Production	9,827	12.6%
Transportation & Material Moving	8,830	11.3%
Military Specific	237	0.3%
Information Not Available	11,037	14.2%

Mass layoff events accounted for less than 20 percent of the initial claims filed in 2005. In total there were 77,779 initial claims filed for UI benefits during the year. Men filed claims at a slightly higher rate (52.4%) than women who accounted for 47.6 percent of initial claims filed during 2005. A pattern similar to Rhode Island's civilian labor force composition of males (51.5%) and females (48.4%).

Nearly 27 percent of initial claims were filed by individuals between 35 and 44 years of age. An additional 25 percent were between the ages of 45 and 54.

Age Characteristics of Rhode Island's Initial Claimants



Nearly 45 percent (34,358) of the people filing initial claims reported having attained a high school diploma. Sixteen percent (12,436) of the claimants had less than a high school diploma, while 10.9 percent (8,437) reported having at least a bachelor's degree.

Education	77,799	100.0%
Less than 9th Grade	3,870	5.0%
9th to 12th, no diploma	8,569	11.0%
High School Graduate	34,358	44.2%
Some College	12,009	15.4%
Bachelor's Degree	6,419	8.3%
Beyond Bachelor's	2,018	2.6%
Information Not Available	10,556	13.6%

Over one-third of the initial claims were filed by individuals previously employed in the Manufacturing (14.1%), Construction (12.2%) or Accommodation & Food Services (9.5%) sectors of the economy. Those previously employed as Production Workers filed the most initial claims (9,872), followed by Transportation & Material Moving (8,830) and Office & Administrative Support (8,509) occupations.